

JOB CORPS

PARTNERSHIPS THAT WORK

Region IV

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Dallas Region Welcomes June Boswell as Acting Regional Director and Division Chief

June Boswell is currently the Acting Regional Director and Division Chief for the Dallas Region, Office of Job Corps with the retirement of José M. de Olivares on March 16, 2005.

She has been a Division Chief since 2000 and has been a Contracting Officer since 2001. She began her federal career in 1998 after 11 years of Job Corps center experience, where she served as Center Director at the Philadelphia, McKinney, and Keystone Job Corps centers. Her experience in Job Corps is augmented by her years as a Corporate Vice President with the YMCA of Philadelphia and at the executive level of the YWCA. Prior to the Y, she spent several years in banking after working at the University of Pennsylvania where she recruited, set up internship programs, and managed human resources.

She has a Master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania

School of Social Work and completed the Executive MBA Program at the University of Michigan Graduate School of Business.

When asked to comment on her position, Ms. Boswell had the following comments, "I am **passionate about Job Corps**. It is the **one** thing that I have done professionally that I knew from the first day that I wanted to do the rest of my professional life. I have had no other interest and no other desire to do anything but Job Corps. And what's not to love about



Job Corps? The program is comprehensive and all-inclusive, it makes services available to those who need it and can benefit from it. It teaches and develops the person. It nurtures and prods. It encourages and holds accountable. It shelters and feeds. It's inwardly focused on students, the center, and its facilities and outwardly focused on the community. It achieves what society cannot achieve: it succeeds in having a multi-racial, multicultural environment in which students live, learn, and thrive. They share a small compact world where all of their differences are displayed and all of their similarities are nurtured for the common good. I love every aspect of it...the good, bad, and awful. The good is good and the bad and awful are nothing but opportunities in work clothes!"

Sounds like great things are on the horizon for Region IV and we welcome June Boswell's ideals, ethics, and innovations to our region.

Lifeshare Blood Centers Recognize Shreveport Job Corps Center

Shreveport Job Corps Center received recognition at the Annual Donor Recognition Luncheon held Tuesday, January 25, 2005, at the Hollywood Grand Ballroom. The theme was "Everyday Miracles - Celebrating Those Who Save Lives, and Those Whose Lives Have

Been Saved."

Shreveport Job Corps Center received the Platinum Plus Award. Only groups hosting six or more blood drives and achieving 95 percent, or more of its total annual donation projection were honored. SJCC was listed among the company of Wal-

Mart Super Centers, Bass Pro Shops, Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office, and LSU Health Sciences Center.

Ms. Mary Mims, Student Activity Coordinator, along with the SJCC Association of Student Workers, has worked diligently contributing to the mission of Life Share Blood Centers.



Employment and
Training Administration

JOB CORPS News

Roswell Job Corps Center: One Future at a Time, 40 Shadows for a Day

The Groundhog stopped being the only thing to spot its shadow years ago, when ShadowDay.org created a national event. Job Corps centers nationwide were excited about the possibilities Work-Based Learning and Career Opportunities could give their students. In 2004, it was reported that 1,000,000 students participated nationwide; in 2005, the numbers are not in for the nation, but 40 students from the Roswell Job Corps Center

found themselves working alongside professionals throughout Roswell. “They were not so much shadows, but workers that could really contribute to the jobs we had,” expressed Danny Fulkerson of Fulkerson Plumbing & Heating.

Students participated with employers that showcased their abilities. The Automotive Technology students went to C&S Auto Tech,

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Jaime Lopez working with Fulkerson Plumbing and Heating

SPOTTING EARLY STRAWS

By the time you realize it's the last straw, it's already too late.

By Dean Christopher



We all know the sayings “That’s the last straw!” and “The straw that broke the camel’s back,” folksy references to seemingly small things that go just a bit too far – and become too much.

Those little last straws trigger disaster, or at least unpleasant consequences.

It’s important to recognize potential problem “straws” long before the last one appears, while there’s still time to prevent an epidemic of collapsing camels. The wise course is to be constantly aware; proactive, not reactive. As the Boy Scouts say, “Be prepared!”

Well, who is more involved with preparation than Job Corps? Your mission is to ensure an ongoing supply of prepared workers; skilled youngsters with a real chance for productive lives – productive for us all. Because each time you accomplish your mission, you bolster America’s local infrastructures, the deepest wellsprings of our national strength. Our country’s long-term well being resides not in our awesome military power or natural resources, but in the know-how and spirit of working people, taking care of business from day to day, shift by shift. That means it’s especially important to be proactive about our human resources.

In the 1960s, New York City promoted a training program with the slogan, “You won’t get tomorrow’s jobs with yesterday’s skills.” That simple statement is so logical

and powerful that I recall it now, 40 years later. I believe it’s even more relevant now than it was then.

So here are some questions for you in “preparation biz.”

- Who in the Corps is tasked with scanning the horizon to identify tomorrow’s jobs? Is it a full-court press, or just occasional fancy dribbling?
- How do you decide *which* new vocations to develop, and which existing ones to update?
- Who determines *when* to replace Vocation “A” with Vocation “B” – in which centers? Different locales have differing needs, opportunities, economies and population resources.
- How far ahead do you usually plan?
- Which new programs have you initiated recently?
- Who is responsible for the curricula for “tomorrow’s skills”?
- In short, what are you currently doing to prepare Job Corps to prepare the students yet to come?

A few years ago, while shooting Job Corps TV spots in Louisiana, I learned that the U.S. was then importing hundreds, maybe thousands, of maritime welders from India and elsewhere. Seems there weren’t enough Americans who could do the work! Hello? Not enough American welders?

Why not? Why hadn’t someone – somewhere – been proactive enough to spot the growing need for maritime welders, and begun training new ones, so we wouldn’t

have to surrender American jobs on American soil? Wasn’t *anyone* thinking ahead? I know it’s wasteful to train battalions of workers for whom no jobs yet exist. But it’s both tragic and embarrassing to find ourselves ambushed by a rash of high-paying jobs in a critical industry – with no American workers to fill them.

Coming events cast their shadows. Even straws cast shadows. But they’re visible only when your eyes are open – *plainly* visible only when you’re consciously watching for them.

Why this talk about straws? Because metaphor and folklore are often more instructive and compelling conveyors of wisdom than formal reports or learned historical prose.

We learn more than we realize from the stories we hear as kids. In fact, there’s another straw metaphor in the tale of the *Three Little Piggies*. The first little piggy built his house of straw, because straw is light and easy to lift. The second little piggy built his house of sand, because sand is easy to shape. The third little piggy was more imaginative – proactive, we might even say. He took the trouble to mix his sand with straw to make bricks. It was harder work, but when he was finished he was able to build a sturdy brick house. And when the big windstorm came, his was the only house left standing.

Big winds are heading our way, friends. It’s time for some serious thinking about the house we wish to build. Otherwise our economy could be left grasping at straws.

JOB CORPS News

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Roswell Honda, and Roswell Toyota. Culinary Arts students served it up at the newly opened Chili's Bar and Grill. Electrical Wiring students troubleshot and installed systems with Cable One. Facility Maintenance students teamed up with 400 Penn Plaza, a property management company, Pioneer Bank, and Fulkerson Plumbing and Heating. Protective Services students spent the day in law enforcement with Roswell's finest. Painting students were at Fulkerson and Hampton Inn. Health Occupations students spent a 24-hour shift with Roswell's bravest on the front lines of emergency services. The Student Government Association had a three-day adventure becoming parts of committees and discussions during the 2005 Regular Session. Many of these employers are already members of the Community Relations Council and Industry Council; none were currently Work-Based Learning sites. Virginia Garcia, WBL Coordinator, noted, "I got two new work sites, but I've got to hand it to our kids. They were working hard and really enjoying the opportunity."

The students weren't the only ones who were impressed. David Bell of Roswell Honda (shadowed by Perla Leyva, 18) said, "It's a great program. Any time you can enlighten a young person's eyes, you can make their life better."

Frances Medrano of Hampton Inn and Suites was excited to invite a student to the hotel, and said, "Job Corps gives these students such a good work ethic. At the luncheons the culinary students always shine, but all of the trades have those high levels of expectation."

The third annual trip to Santa Fe was the biggest success yet. "It is an educational opportunity to visit Santa Fe, not just for the governmental experience, the extensive and rich historical and cultural legacy of the area," noted BCL John Merchant. The group of five SGA Officers, SGA Advisor Anjanette Ogas and BCL John Merchant departed on the morning of February 1st. On the second day of their trip, they were taken to the Roundhouse, State Capitol of New Mexico where they shadowed legislators from south-

eastern New Mexico. At the end of the day, everyone gathered in the Office of the Governor for a special meeting with Gov. Bill Richardson. "Did you know that George Foreman graduated from Job Corps?" was Governor Richardson's introduction to the students.

Job Shadow Day at Roswell Job Corps Center was more than an opportunity for the students to showcase themselves; it was a chance for employers to inspire them to reach greater heights and pursue their educations to secure their dreams.



SGA President Carmen Lamas with Governor Bill Richardson

Center Tidbits: Students Throughout the Region Learn and Impress on Job Shadow Day

Anaconda

Students attended a session of the Montana State Legislature in Helena. They observed the lawmakers in action and enjoyed a brief tour of the state museum. Below, at the State Capitol on January 25, are (back, from left): Principal Joel Graves, Tonya Sweet, Teri Youpee, Spencer Coon, and Chance Wheatley; (front, from left): Chrystal Staples, Wesley Downard, Shaun Coombs, Wade Hulstine, and Educator Mike Ricci.



Carrasco

Sixty-four David L. Carrasco Job Corps Center students participated in Groundhog Job Shadow Day. Three healthcare providers participated: Regent Care Center, White Acres Good Samaritan Retirement Village, and El Paso Community College's Health Occupations. Automotive Repair Technician students were assigned to the Hoy-Fox Toyota Lexus dealership, Cummins Southwest, Inc., and El Paso Automotive Machine Shop. Business Technologies students worked at the El Paso Community College Office of Grants Management, Magnolia Coca Cola Bottling, and Travelodge La Hacienda Airport. Medical Office Support students spent the day at the Isaac Camacho Head Start program, and the office of Jose M. Ruffier, M.D. Food Service students "shadowed" the chefs at Tony Roma's Restaurant and Providence Hospital's Morrison Healthcare food facility. Welding students spent the day at the University of

Texas at El Paso's Metallurgical department. Facilities Maintenance students worked at the Lulac Villa Del Norte Apartments and Rehabilitation Technician students honed their skills at the Socorro Independent School District's aquatic center, assisting with aquatic therapy.

Carville

To encourage student participation at Carville Job Corps Academy, a variety of companies were provided, including: Congressman Richard Baker's Office, Cox Communications, Gillis W. Long Center, Hank's Pontiac Dealership, Holiday Inn, Iberville Parish Sheriff's Office, John Folse Creamery, Louisiana State University, Plaquemine Courthouse, St. Elizabeth's Hospital, St. Gabriel Mayor's Office, and our own center. These companies shed light on auto mechanics, health occupations, business office technology, culinary arts, heavy

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equipment, carpentry, and welding. Students were given a Groundhog Job Shadow Day t-shirt and a camera to take pictures so they would remember this special day. The Carville Academy's first annual Groundhog Job Shadow Day proved successful, as 93 students received the knowledge and skills they will need to achieve their dreams.

Collbran

Collbran Job Corps Center joined thousands of employers and students that took part in Groundhog Job Shadow Day. The center shadowed eight local businesses: St Mary's Hospital, Perri's Collision, Walker Field Airport Authority, Community Hospital, Grand Junction Steel, Mays Concrete, Alpine Custom Doors, and UTEC. One student shadowed State Representative Bernie Buescher at the Capitol Building in Denver. Approximately 17 Maintenance students, 15 IT/Cisco students, 11 Painting students, 20 Business Technology students, 15 Welding students, 11 Cement students, 9 Carpentry students, and 9 Culinary Arts students also participated in the Groundhog Job Shadow Day.

Gary

Over 420 Gary Job Corps students participated in Job Shadowing activities in San Marcos, Austin, Houston, Schertz, Seguin, and at locations on center. Elvia Gonzalez and Jesus Barron shadowed San Marcos Mayor Susan Narvaiz, while Carlos Avila saw an edition of the San Marcos Daily Record being produced and visited with publisher Mike Mueck, managing editor Rowe Ray, news editor Anita Miller, and sports editor Randy Stevens. Students shadowed at the San Marcos Fire Department, the city of San Marcos MIS Department, and the city's administrative offices. Twelve students went to Houston with Gary Work Based Learning Specialists, Earl Moseley and spent the day at DIR., an information research and social policy firm. Other Job Shadowing sites included the San Marcos Food Bank, Gary JCC Departments, area nursing homes and medical centers, manufacturing company Vita Nonwovens in Schertz, the Guadalupe Sheriff's Department, Seguin, and the Army National Guard depot in San Marcos. In all, 427 students shadowed at over 40 locations.

Guthrie

Seventy-two trainees participated in job shadowing at locations including AgriLawn, Action/Head Start, Enid Iron and Metal, Dr. Ringrose Medical Office, Guthrie Pet Hospital, Guthrie Fire Dept., Guthrie Police Dept., The Lakes Retirement Center, Crown Plaza Hotel, the Oklahoma City office for Guthrie Job Corps, as well as several offices on center. Virtual job shadowing gave 134 more trainees the opportunity to explore career opportunities from computer workstations on center.

Little Rock

Students participated in the Job Corps Groundhog Job Shadow Day for an entire week! Students participated off center with the American Red Cross™ and Walgreens®, as well as our local Industry Workforce Investment Board, and Community Relations Councils. In all, 96 students worked more than 228 volunteer hours. Culinary Arts students worked for the Double Tree, Wyndham and Holiday Inn Hotels, and North Hills Country Club. Facilities Maintenance students worked at North Little Rock Housing, Raytheon Aircraft, and the Arkansas Highway Department. Plumbing students got to work directly with L.V. Dyer and Sons. HOT students were introduced to Walgreens® and with Carver Day Care, while BOT students worked with the Arkansas Resource Center. Students also gained experience working with Arkansas Attorney General Mike Beebe, Senator Blanche Lincoln's office, and Representative Vic Snyder's office. The center was able to garner two new Work-Based Learning sites out of the weeklong program.

New Orleans

New Orleans set a goal to include Job Corps' 40th Anniversary celebration by striving to have at least 40 trainees participate in Groundhog Shadow Day. The goal was met, plus one.

A variety of employers were happy to assist the center by opening their workplace doors to the New Orleans trainees. These included: Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Orleans Parish Criminal Court, The

Blood Center, Radio Station HOT 104.5, New Orleans Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau, Avenue Plaza Hotel, New Orleans Health Corporation, The American Red Cross, Monarch Paint, Lambeth House, Lower 9th Ward Health Clinic, New Orleans Economic Development Business Center, Airline Park Elementary School, New City Diner, and the New Orleans Police Department.

North Texas

The North Texas Job Corps Center placed students at 40 different Job Shadowing sites. This year, the City of McKinney again hosted our students for Job Shadowing Day. The departments that were represented were: Human Resources, McKinney Police Department, Purchasing, Public Information, McKinney Fire Dept, Parks and Recreation, Public Library, and the Health Inspector.

This year was our first year to partner with the City of Plano, as the City of Plano traditionally hosted Plano ISD but selected North Texas JCC. Each city employee was paired with a "shadow" in Food Services, Environmental Health, Engineering, Building Inspection, Maintenance, Property Standards, Public Safety, Field Services, Parks and Recreation, and the Print Shop departments.

Tulsa

Tulsa Job Corps students were excited to shadow their respective employers as part of National Groundhog Job Shadow Day. Fifteen students shadowed 11 different employers, including: Doubletree Hotel, Oklahoma Eagle Newspaper, Ace Networks Printing, Tulsa Fire Department-Public Education Division, Tulsa Fire Department-Computer Information Systems, Tulsa Fire Department-Administration, Oklahoma Blood Institute, FreshJamz-105.3FM, Oklahoma Health Academy, Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences, and A Pocket Full of Hope. Two students received job opportunity offers, while others were simply thrilled about learning how their Job Corps skills really are transferable into the "World of Work."

Contact Arla to be put on the newsletter mailing list at rla@cuttingedgesa.com